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REMARKS

Claims 30-32 have been finally rejected under 21 and 25 - 29 have been rejected for various reasons under §§ 102 and 103. These claims have been cancelled.

Submitted herewith is one new independent claim which Applicant believes defines patentable subject matter.

§ 102 Rejection

Claim 30 has been rejected under § 102 based on Johnston (U.S. 1,666,290). This claim has been cancelled.

New independent claim 34 recites the limitations that:

- a second strap connected to the cuff and connectible to an inside part of the footwear forward of the heel
- a third strap connected to the cuff and connectible to a front part of the footwear

Support for these limitations is found, inter alia, in the Specification at Page 10. Paragraph 36.

Johnston has no teaching or suggestion of a second strap or of a third strap as now claimed herein.

Applicant respectfully submits that the new claim submitted here defines novel subject matter and is not anticipated by Johnston.

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 31-32 have been rejected under § 103 based on Johnston in view of Robinson (U.S. 4,922,630). These claims have been cancelled.

New independent claim 34 presented here has the limitations discussed above.

Applicant repeats here the comments above regarding the Johnston reference. Robinson does not remedy the deficiencies of Johnston. Robinson has no teaching or suggestion of a second strap or of a third strap as now claimed herein.

§ 112 Rejections

Claims 31 and 32, rejected under § 112, have been cancelled.

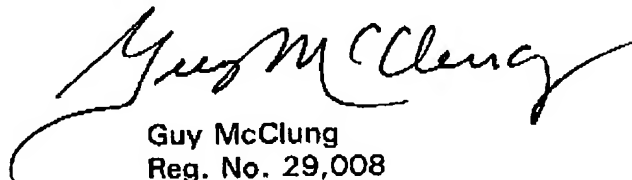
New Drawing Figure 3

Submitted herewith is a new drawing Fig. 3 with the numeral 65 added.

Conclusion

Applicant appreciates the careful and detailed Office Action. This is intended to be a complete Response to the Office Action. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that the original of this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Examiner at 571 273 8300, on 28 August 2006. Guy McClung, Reg. No. 29,008